

In re: Asplin
Serial No.: 09/687,445

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amended the claims as follows:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab
by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to
stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position said method
comprising the steps of:

suppling a sand storage tank filled with a well dried
mason's sand said storage tank having a sand outlet;

suppling a compressed air source in fluid tight connection
with said sand outlet;

mixing said sand and said compressed air in a mixing
chamber;

delivering said sand and air mixture to an injector gun via
an elongate fluid tight hose said gun further having a gun
nozzle;

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drilling a hole and said slab to be leveled;
attaching said gun nozzle to said drilled hole;
operating said injector gun in bursts so as to provide
compressed air and sand; and

~~lifting said slab by said bursts of compressed air such that
said slab is lifted in bursts such that said sand can flow under
said slab permanently filling under said slab and raising said
slab to a new level~~

lifting, momentarily, said slab to a height above the
desired final level with the compressed air supplied by said
bursts, such that a settle cavity filled with compressed air
sufficient to raise said slab above the ground is created between
said slab and said ground until said compressed air escapes from
said settle cavity allowing said slab to drop back in contact
with said ground;

leveling said ground with said well dried mason's sand
carried by said compressed air in said burst such that said well
dried mason's sand may move freely within said settle cavity
momentarily created by said compressed air; and

repeating said lifting and leveling steps until said slab is
at the desired level and resting upon said well dried mason's
sand.

13. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab
by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to
stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 12
further comprising the step of supplying a compressed air bleed
valve between said compressed air source and sand outlet.

14. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 13 further comprising the step of operating said compressed air bleed valve to release excess pressure.

15. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 14 further comprising the step of supplying a sand shutoff valve between said sand storage tank and said mixing chamber.

16. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 15 further comprising the step of adjusting said sand shutoff valve so as to control the flow of sand to said mixing chamber.

17. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position said method comprising the steps of:

- drilling a strategically placed hole in said slab;
- supplying a sand storage tank filled with sand said storage tank having a sand outlet;
- supplying a compressed air source in fluid tight connection with said sand outlet;
- mixing said sand and said compressed air in a mixing chamber said mixing chamber having a smaller air source hose fitted inside of a larger diameter sand outlet such that said smaller

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air source extends into the center section of said larger diameter sand outlet so as to create a venturi effect;

delivering said sand and air mixture to an injector gun via an elongate fluid tight hose said injector gun further having a gun nozzle for connection with said hole;

attaching said gun nozzle to said drilled hole; and

~~operating said injector gun in short successive bursts so as to provide compressed air sufficient to temporarily lift said slab in short successive bursts said bursts also providing sand that permanently fills under said slab when lifted and raises said slab to a new permanent level so as to provide compressed air and well dried mason's sand;~~

lifting, momentarily, said slab to a height above the desired final level with the compressed air supplied by said injector gun, such that a settle cavity filled with compressed air sufficient to raise said slab above the ground is created between said slab and said ground until said compressed air escapes from said settle cavity allowing said slab to drop back in contact with said ground;

leveling said ground with said well dried mason's sand carried by said compressed air such that said well dried mason's sand may move freely within said settle cavity momentarily created by said compressed air; and

repeating said lifting and leveling steps until said slab is at the desired level and resting upon said well dried mason's sand.

18. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 17

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further comprising the step of supplying a sand shutoff valve that may be adjusted so as to control the flow of sand to said mixing chamber.

19. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 18 further comprising the step of drilling a second strategically placed hole in said slab; moving said gun nozzle to said second hole and repeating said operating step.

20. (currently amended) A method do lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 19 further comprising the step of patching said holes to match said slab.

21. (currently amended) A method of lifting and leveling a slab by using compressed air to lift said slab and dried sand to stabilize and hold said slab in a desired position as in claim 20 further comprising the step of supplying a compressed air bleed valve between said compressed air source and sand outlet so as to bleed of excess air.